

City of Moorhead
Economic Development Authority
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2013 at 11:45 AM
1st Floor, Council Chambers, Moorhead City Hall

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority was held in the 1st Floor, Council Chambers, Moorhead City Hall, on May 28, 2013, at 11:45 AM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

Board Member:	Les Bakke	Present
Board Member:	Bob Buth	Present
Board Member:	Violet Deilke	<i>Absent</i>
3rd Ward Council Member:	Brenda Elmer	Present
Board Member:	Jeff Frider	<i>Absent</i>
4th Ward Council Member:	Steve Gehrtz	Present
Board Member:	Ray Grefsheim	<i>Absent</i>
Board Member:	Kris Gulsvig	<i>Absent</i>
Board Member:	Charley Johnson	<i>Absent</i>
Board Member:	Jim Steen	Present
Board Member:	Dave Sederquist	Present

Others Present:

Peter Doll, Development Services Manager
Scott Hutchins, Director of Community Services
Matt Maslowski, Business Development Manager

Michael Redlinger, City Manager
Amy Thorpe, ED Program Administrator
Lisa Vatnsdal, Community Development Manager

1. Call meeting to Order / Roll Call

2. Agenda Amendments

3. Approve Minutes

A [April 22, 2013](#)

Motion to Approve made by Steve Gehrtz and seconded by Brenda Elmer
Approve Minutes of April 22, 2013

Motion Passed: For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 5

4. Citizens Addressing the Board

5. [Commissioners' Reports](#)

Minutes: Bakke announced Ride for Honor, in honor of Vietnam Vets, Bike Ride.

Elmer reported that she attended the Homebuilder's "Lunch and Learn." She said the small group setting was perfect and the meeting was productive.

6. [Business Development Update – Maslowski](#)

Minutes: Maslowski provided his update as provided in packet materials.

Commissioners requested additional information:

- Currently, the new "Business Development" page on Facebook is not found in a

search and staff is working to correct this issue.

- Sam's Club proceeding. No issues or concerns. Suggested that the city issue press release to keep public updated. Keep media updated on projects.
- Upcoming Minnesota Angel Network event
- Went on several business retention visits this month and will do more next month

7. Final 2013 Legislative Report – Hutchins

Minutes: Hutchins provided a brief update as found in packet materials. Legislative issues identified for 2014 are as follows:

- Building Codes – Residential Sprinklers
- Disparity Reduction Credit Indexing
- Recurring Border City Appropriation.

Redlinger message was to keep the momentum going. There is a heightened sense of what is happening regarding North Dakota.

Commissioners requested clarification of the following:

- Worker's compensation rates are trending downward.
- Is it possible to make the "sprinkler" issue a border city issue? Alternatives acceptable to Moorhead found in the mayor's letter.
- Moorhead specific press release or news conference to highlight the positive message
- State Fire Marshall is pushing residential sprinkler issue. Would it be better to make it an incentive rather than a regulation? Maybe a reduction in insurance cost?
- \$20 million for statewide flood mitigation with language included that gave Moorhead a priority. Not an earmark in the bill for \$5.7million.
- Use of solar power had been resolved to a degree and was not as bad as anticipated.

A Appointment of Border City Enterprise Zone Subcommittee – Hutchins

Minutes: Incentive Subcommittee nominations: Bob Buth, Dave Sederquist, and Jim Steen. Les Bakke volunteered to be an alternate. Les Bakke left the meeting at 12:21 p.m.

8. Economic Activity Update – Staff

A Housing & Marketing

B Business Development

Minutes: Vatnsdal highlighted activities from the Communications and Marketing "dashboard" update. Chance Larson, IT, gave a preview of the "Property Information" mobile app for realtors. It is similar to the current web information but in a manner easily access by mobile devices such as cell phones and tablets. The application was still being tested but would be live soon. App includes a "rebate calculate" to calculate the value of the rebate.

Commissioners requested clarification of the following:

- Consensus was we are moving in the right direction suggested including state legislators in the realtor's meetings.
- Make Moorhead Home on current website doesn't look like a link.
- New website is on time and on budget. Staff reviewing current content and migrating to the new site. Anticipate launch in late summer.
- Cleanup funds to be awarded by DEED at the end of May

- Suggested that Matt meet Paul Hyde
- Microtel Update

9. Information / Update

A [Building & Permit Valuation Summary](#)

B [Articles of Interest](#)

10. [Adjourn](#)

Minutes: Meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

Jim Steen
Chair

Charley Johnson
Secretary

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

*Respectfully submitted by:
Amy Thorpe, Economic Development Program Administrator*